New-York Daily Times.

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THE TIMES FOR CALIFORNIA.

New-York Daily Times.

FORE-FATHERS' DAY.

Celebration of the New-England Society

DINNER AT THE ASTOR HOUSE.

Speeches of Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Judge Daly, Wm. M. Evarts, R. J. Raymond, Rev. Dr. Bacon and Others.

The Two Hundred and Thirty-fourth Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock was celebrated yesterday by the New-England Society. The event was characterized by many features of interest.

At 6½ o'clock, last evening, in accordance with the arrangements made, a very numerous company seated themselves before the tables in the spacious dining hall of the Astor House. Messrs. COLEMAN & STETSON had caused the table to be laid with unusual care, and the bill of fare embraced every luxury that the market afforded. The entire management of the Dinner and the arrangements of the room was under the care of Mr. JAMES STETSON.

Moses H. GRINNELL, Esq., President of the Society, presided on the occasion. At his left was seated Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, and at other points of the table were Judge DALY, HENRY J. RAYMOND, Esq., Dr. CHARLES KING, Captain STEARNS of the Army, GEORGE WOOD, Esq., G. DUDLEY, Esq., Mayor of Hartford; Rev. Dr. BACON, of New-Haven; Rev. Mr. FISCHER, of Brooklyn; FREDERIC DUPEYSTER, of the St. Nicholas Society; RICHARD O'GORMAN, Esq., of the St. Patrick's; Mr. YOUNG, of the St. George's; Mr. JONES, of St. David's, and RICHARD WARREN of the Old Colony.

Dodsworth's Band added to the interest of the occasion by the performance of some of their finest pieces.

The repast was duly partaken of, after which the President proceeded to announce the regular toasts:

The Day we Celebrate.—The Morning Star of Universal Freedom.

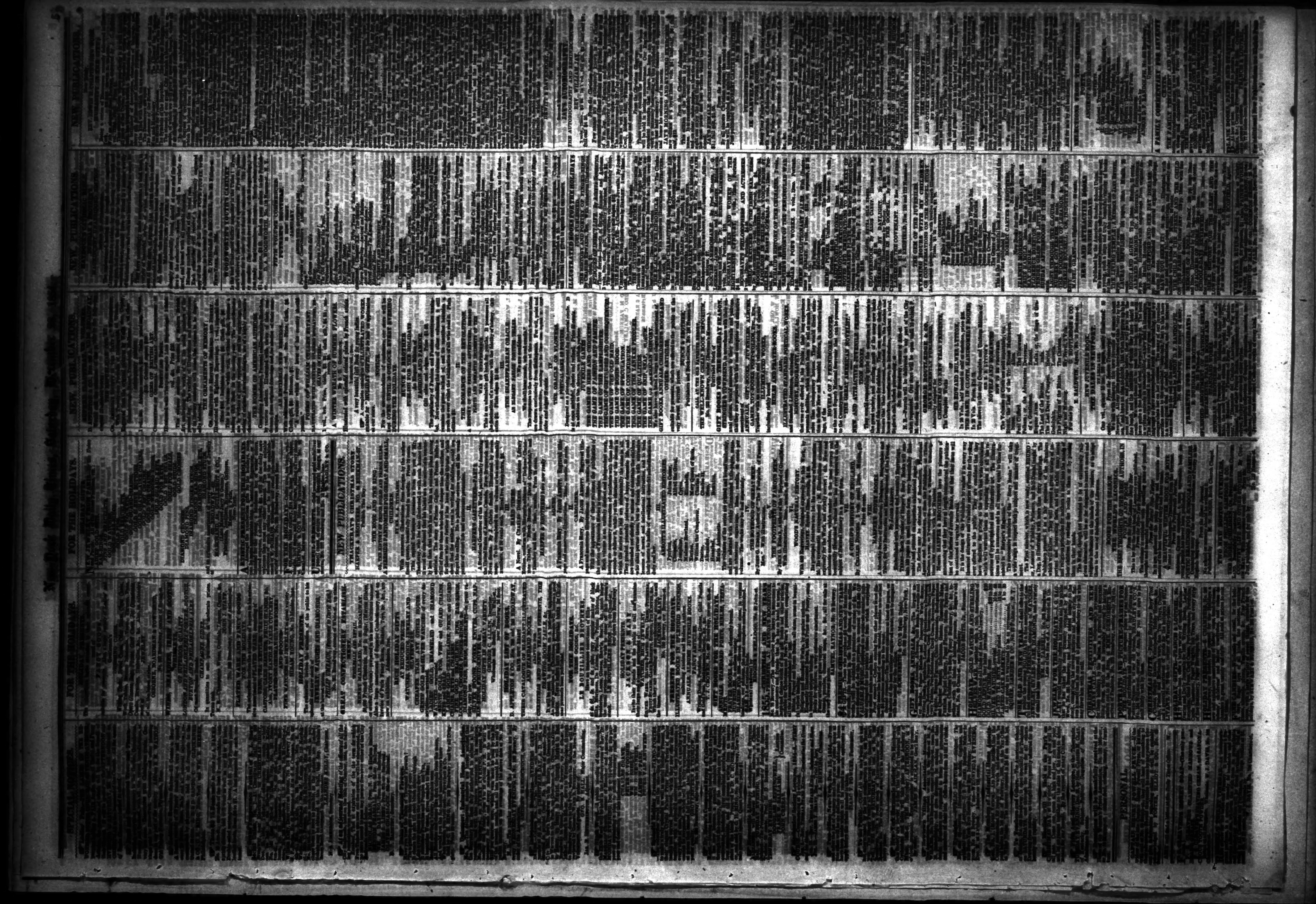
1. The Presidents of the United States.
2. The Governors of New-York.
3. The City of New-York and its Authority.

In reference to the fourth toast, Judge DALY said: As one of the Judiciary of New-York, it does not behoove me to say anything in their behalf. It is more appropriate that I should speak of the Judiciary and Judicial institutions of New-England. [Applause.] If I were to single out a quality which unquestionably distinguishes New-England as a judicial point of view, I would speak of the independence of the tribunals, in which her people have the honor of judicial tribunals. [Applause.] What is the secret of this institution, by one who, as an thoughtful, acute and practical people, are seeking from their confidence in the men they select to interpret and declare the law, and from the universal feeling pervading the whole people that justice is sacred, that the law, not as some constitution, fixed a court of day and hour of sitting, but from the fact that it is law. [Applause.] In Great Britain the respect due the law is in a great measure due to traditional association and immemorial usage. No such ends are required in New-England; such is other parts of this nation. The centre, last evening, spoke of the Constitution, which has been Pilgrim descent in the same law. What does therefore how those Pilgrims dwelling in the wilderness of New-England, with the Bible in their hands, and the fear of God in their hearts, framed for themselves? They framed a system of laws, which, in its principles, was the most perfect, as the most practical, combination of Grecian architecture—simple and massive in its definitive, scientific in its arrangements and symmetrical in its parts, but adapting to the wants and requirements of the people. The civil law is an element, as we have said, of New-England life. It is

[illegible] of Gama was welcomed by music and [illegible] of joy, but when he displayed [illegible] Cross" instead of the "true believer," upon [illegible] monuments, which, however, were soon [illegible] by Dr. Gama's arguments spoken through [illegible] of his cannon. Not long after this event [illegible] Portuguese took formal possession of the [illegible] which in 1505 commenced the great era of St. [illegible] Sofala, which will long remain a lasting monument of the enterprise and energy of those hardy navigators. It is a work of immense magnitude, and [illegible] completed in three years. At present it has [illegible] a large number of guns, of all calibres [illegible] some bearing the ancient date of [illegible] The stone balls originally used may still be [illegible] piled near the ramparts. It has a population [illegible] about one hundred and fifty negro slaves, [illegible] by Portuguese officers. The other forts of [illegible] and St. Antonio are unoccupied. From [illegible] discovery until the present time it has continued [illegible] the hands of the Portuguese, although several [illegible] revolutionary attempts have been made, always end[illegible] by the first smoke, characteristic of the present [illegible] The harbor is one of the finest [illegible] in the coast, being well protected by a coral [illegible], having two channels by which the largest [illegible] can enter with perfect safety. The city [illegible] contains about 4,000 inhabitants, of which [illegible] 2,000 are slaves and free negroes; the [illegible] are mostly Arabs, Banianes, Bastard [illegible], with a few of European birth. The [illegible] is about five miles from the main land, and [illegible] is one and a half miles long, by half a mile in [illegible] The buildings present a sad contrast with [illegible] former almost "universal wealth and splendor." [illegible] The cottages, with lofty apartments, and built en[illegible] stone, roofs, stone and walls of coral rock, [illegible] by excellent lime burnt from the same [illegible] material; many are in complete ruins, and all more [illegible] or less dilapidated, but enough remains to satisfy [illegible] the opulent wealth, taste and luxury [illegible] of its former inhabitants. The Governor Gene[illegible]'s Palace, originally built by the Jesuits as a [illegible] convent, is an immense irregular pile of buildings, [illegible] having attached a Chapel and formerly a Charity [illegible] Hospital. The building at present used for a Hos[illegible] pital is pierced, at the southwest end of the island, [illegible] and is most admirably adapted for this purpose; [illegible] having large, well ventilated apartments, halls, [illegible] &c. And it is under the excellent management of a [illegible] very intelligent mulatto surgeon and physician, Dr. [illegible] Fonseca. The cathedral in the days of its prosperity had a numerous array of priests at its altars, [illegible] which were richly decorated with gold and silver [illegible] ornamenting and in the towers a fine chime of bells, [illegible] all the glory has departed, and all that remains is [illegible] some forlorn looking outdoor priest, naked walls [illegible] and dismantled altars, a ruined tower, occupied by [illegible] broken bells and owls, which, as they discordantly [illegible] echo over the bay of Ass Merde, respond in screech[illegible] and hoarse screamings an infernal requiem over the [illegible] fall of all that is great in this apparently God-for[illegible]saken people.

On the opposite coast are the ruins of many fine [illegible] private residences and plantations. The [illegible] living at Quiteve, however, seem to be in as [illegible] flourishing a condition as ever, and doubtless has [illegible] being built up by the downfall of the Portuguese, [illegible] among whom they have a most deadly hatred.

The number of pure Portuguese at present living [illegible] on the island and main land opposite, does not ex[illegible]ceed forty or fifty—the balance calling themselves [illegible] Creoles. The latter is one of the finest [illegible] on the coast, being well protected by a coral [illegible] reef, having two channels by which the largest [illegible] ships can enter with perfect safety. The city [illegible] contains about 4,000 inhabitants, of which about [illegible] 2,000 are slaves and free negroes; the [illegible] remainder are mostly Arabs, Banianes, Bastard [illegible] Portuguese, with a few of European birth. The [illegible] island is about five miles from the main land, and [illegible] is one and a half miles long, by half a mile in [illegible] width. The buildings present a sad contrast with [illegible] its former almost "universal wealth and splendor." [illegible] The cottages, with lofty apartments, and built en[illegible]tirely of stone, roofs, stone and walls of coral rock, [illegible] cemented by excellent lime burnt from the same [illegible] material; many are in complete ruins, and all more [illegible] or less dilapidated, but enough remains to satisfy [illegible] the curious of the princely wealth, taste and luxu[illegible]ry of its former inhabitants. The Governor Gene[illegible]ral's Palace, originally built by the Jesuits as a [illegible] convent, is an immense irregular pile of buildings, [illegible] having attached a Chapel and formerly a Charity [illegible] Hospital. The building at present used for a Hos[illegible]pital is pierced, at the southwest end of the island, [illegible] and is most admirably adapted for this purpose; [illegible] having large, well ventilated apartments, halls, [illegible] &c. And it is under the excellent management of a [illegible] very intelligent mulatto surgeon and physician, Dr. [illegible] Fonseca. The cathedral in the days of its pros[illegible]per



MARKET REPORTS.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, DEC. 31

ARRIVED—THIS DAY.

Steamer Saxon, Liverpool, Dec. 19, with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Steamer Ethiopia, Glasgow, Dec. 19, with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Steamer Ville de Paris, (Fr.) Lemaire, Havre, Dec. 21, with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Steamer Ville de Marseilles, (Fr.) Bonfils, Marseilles, Dec. 21, with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Steamer Ville de Bordeaux, (Fr.) Bonfils, Bordeaux, Dec. 21, with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co.

Steamer Ville de Havre, (Fr.) Lemaire, Havre, Dec. 21